

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE 162D REGIMENT N. Y.

VOL. INFANTRY, (3D METROPOLITAN GUARD) 19TH

ARMY CORPS, 1862-1865

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# HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

162<sup>D</sup> REGIMENT N. Y. VOL. INFANTRY,

(3D METROPOLITAN GUARD,)

19TH ARMY CORPS,

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## S K E T C H.

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THE 162d Regiment was the third of those organized under the auspices of the Police Commissioners of the City of New York.

In addition to the U. S. bounty of \$100, and \$3 hand money, the State and the City and County of New York, each, offered a bounty of \$50 per man; which was paid until Sept. 6th, when the State bounty was withdrawn. It is not known that any bounties were paid by private persons.

The Police Department signalized its loyalty and patriotism by resolving itself into an instrumentality for recruiting, and adopted a policy by which every member of its force became, practically, a recruiting agent, and every station-house a recruiting office; and all without charge to the General Government. Besides, the Department was as liberal in contributing its money as its services to this patriotic purpose.

Recruiting was embarrassed by the interference of those pests of the service, recruiting brokers, whose sole aim was to defraud the recruit of the bounty to which he was entitled; and by the incompetence or corruption of examining surgeons, who did not scruple to pass invalids, the subjects of loathsome diseases, and unable to march a mile. The Regimental Surgeon, Dr. William B. Eager, Jr., discharged numbers who had been passed by the U. S. Examining Surgeons. Under the regulations of the War Department, Regimental Surgeons had no part in the examination of recruits.

Recruiting for this Regiment commenced August 26, 1862,—the term of enlistment being three years.





On the 16th Sept. Col. Lewis Benedict, of Albany, formerly Lt.-Col. of 73d N. Y. Vols. (2d Fire Zouaves), arrived, with Maj. James H. Bogart (formerly Adj't of 43d N. Y. Vols.), and assumed command of the forces on Riker's Island. Lt.-Col. Justus W. Blanchard, formerly Capt. 3d N. Y. Vols., reported Sept. 21st, and succeeded Col. Benedict in command, whose presence was required in the City.

Oct. 14th, Lieut. R. B. Smith, 11th U. S. Infantry, mustered in companies B and C; and on the 18th he mustered in the remaining companies and their officers, except F, late K, 53d N. Y. V., which had been mustered in Aug. 22d, by Capt. T. P. Mott, 19th U. S. Infantry. Number of non-commissioned officers and men, 795; absentees, 150. Total, 945.

Oct. 24th, the War Department ordered the 162d to the field. It was presented with a stand of Colors by the Corporation of New York. The history of these Colors may be found in the Appendix.

About 5 P. M. one-half of the 162d embarked in a small steamboat for Port Monmouth, N. J., and at 11 P. M. the remainder followed. In landing, one man fell into the water, and drowned before any aid could reach him. Between Port Monmouth and Philadelphia the train parted, in consequence of the breaking of a coupling, detaching three cars, which, by some means, became so damaged that it was necessary to transfer their contents to other cars and abandon the injured ones. At Philadelphia, where it arrived at daybreak of 25th, the 162d enjoyed the hospitalities, now famous, of the Soldiers' Relief Committee of that city: and upon reaching Baltimore, at 11 P. M. of the same day, where it bivouacked in the market-place, the Relief Committee of that city also kindly provided it with refreshments. Owing to various detentions, the 162d did not reach Washington until the evening of the 26th, when it arrived in the midst of a furious storm of rain, and found shelter in the Soldiers' Retreat.

Oct. 28th, the 162d marched through Washington, and, crossing the Long Bridge, proceeded to Camp Seward, about four miles from the city, where it pitched its tents and resumed



drilling. On the 30th, it was ordered to the Chain Bridge, some 7 miles above Camp Seward, to report to Brig.-Gen. Abercrombie, commanding the Provisional Division, and join the 133d N. Y. (2nd Metropolitan).

Nov. 4th, the 162d, together with 133d N. Y. V., were ordered to Alexandria, Va., 14 miles below, to report to Brig.-Gen. John E. Slough, and to hold themselves in readiness to embark on transports at a moment's notice, these regiments having been detailed for service in the Banks Expedition.

On the morning of Nov. 10th, Lient.-Col. Blanchard, in command of the six right companies, A, C, D, F, H, I, embarked on an old propeller, called the "George's Creek," which had been imposed upon the Government. Col. Benedict and the remaining four companies were detained at Alexandria until the 16th, when they embarked upon a diminutive propeller, called the "City of Bath," constructed originally to ply between Boston and Bangor. Lient.-Col. Blanchard and the six companies arrived in Hampton Roads on the 12th, Col. Benedict and the four companies on the 17th, and lay there waiting further orders for some days. About three-quarters of the fleet belonging to the Banks Expedition were assembled in the Roads. The 162d reported to Brig.-Gen. Wm. H. Emory, commanding the forces afloat. During the time of this detention the Regiment disembarked and drilled daily. Finally, at 8 P. M., Dec. 3d, the gunboat *Augusta*, convoy of this division of the fleet, fired a signal-gun, and the fleet got under way. The destination of the expedition remained a secret until the mouth of the Mississippi was reached.

When the fleet weighed anchor the sky was overcast, a gusty wind had sprung up, causing a short chopping sea that rapidly destroyed the comfort of the landmen on getting outside. Off Cape Hatteras, the wind freshened to a gale. The "City of Bath" lay on her beam-ends for some hours, after which the gale abated, though a heavy sea continued. On the night of Dec. 5th, 2d Lieut. James De P. Wilkes, of Co. H, nephew of Com. Wilkes, was lost overboard. He left the cabin to go on deck, and was never seen again.



Dec. 11th, the "City of Bath" made Key West and took in coal and water. The officers and men had suffered severely during the passage, on account of most of the water having been put in casks which had previously contained oil. As the "City of Bath" was going out of Key West, the "George's Creek" was coming in. Dec. 15th, the "City of Bath" arrived at New Orleans, having touched at Ship Island, when the sealed orders were opened and her destination ascertained. Col. Benedict reported at the Head-Quarters of the Department of the Gulf, and, under orders, proceeded with the vessel to Carrollton, a small place in the suburbs of the town, and six miles above the city proper. On arriving there, Gen. T. W. Sherman, commanding the post, ordered him to disembark his men at Camp Parapet, some two miles above Carrollton, and there go into camp.

Camp Parapet is a line of earthworks extending from the Mississippi River to an impenetrable swamp, lying between it and Lake Pontchartrain, and distant from the river about a mile. They were constructed, under the direction of the Rebel Gen. Beauregard, to protect New Orleans against attack from above; Forts St. Philip and Jackson being supposed to be a sufficient defense against attack from forces approaching by sea.

The forces at this post, at this time, were 25th and 26th Conn., 16th N. H., a detachment of 12th Maine, 4th Wis. and 1st Vermont Batteries, and the four companies of the 162d. Col. Benedict took command of the post. Day after day passed without tidings from Lieut.-Col. Blanchard and the six companies with him. The character of the transport filled the Colonel's mind with anxiety concerning the fate of the looked-for officers and men: at length, on the 24th Dec., the wretched weather-beaten hulk slowly steamed up to the Parapet and landed her precious freight, to the general delight of the garrison and the special joy of the 162d.

Dec. 31st, in pursuance of orders from Gen. Banks, Major Bogart and three companies, B., Capt. King, C., Capt. Wunder, and E., Lieut. Curtis, were dispatched, by Col. Benedict, to



Plaquemine, a small town 110 miles above New Orleans, to dislodge any force of the enemy found at that point; information having been received at Head-quarters that a battery had been planted there to intercept communication between Baton Rouge and New Orleans. Maj. Bogart, not finding any enemy there, quietly occupied the town and threw out pickets. Capt. Wunder, of Co. C, was officer of the day, and, at about 11 P. M., he reported a large force of the enemy to be advancing, — his fears having multiplied a few guerrillas to an overwhelming body of troops. Upon receiving such alarming intelligence, Maj. Bogart hastily withdrew his command to the bank of the river and posted it behind the levee; designing to use it as a breastwork in case of an attack. After some firing the pickets emulated the general example and withdrew to the main body. The gunboat Catawba then commenced shelling the woods. By the premature explosion of a shell, 1st Sergt. J. A. Baker was instantly killed, one private severely wounded, and one corporal slightly. No damage was received from the enemy. Maj. Bogart called a council of his officers, and the result was that the town was abandoned.

About the 8th Jan., 1863, Col. Benedict was ordered to move the 162d to Donaldsonville, 60 miles above New Orleans, and hold that place, while Gen. Godfrey Weitzel, who had been lying at Thibodeaux, moved on Brashear City and other points on Bayou Tèche; it being apprehended that during Weitzel's employment elsewhere, the enemy might get in his rear, and endanger both him and our possession of the Mississippi River. Col. Benedict extended his pickets fifteen miles, to Napoleon. The 162d remained at Donaldsonville until the 25th, when, by the success of Weitzel's expedition, the necessity for strengthening the regular garrison having ceased, it returned to its camp at the Parapet.

Feb. 2d, the 162d broke camp and went into quarters at Camp Mansfield, half a mile from Carrollton, — Col. Benedict turning over the command of Camp Parapet to Gen. Neal Dow. It was there brigaded with the 16th N. H., 110th N. Y. and 4th Mass., constituting the 1st Brig., 3d Div. of 19th





Army Corps, under command of Brig.-Gen. Andrews of Mass.; and remained there until March 6th. At this time, Col. Benedict, who had been suffering for some weeks from an ailment, to be relieved only by a surgical operation, received leave of absence to enable him to go North in order to obtain the necessary treatment.

March 6th, the army embarked for Bâton Rouge; the 162d from Carrollton, on the steamer "Time and Tide," a demonstration against Port Hudson being contemplated, to favor the passage of the batteries by Farragut's fleet. A few days before, Gen. Andrews had been appointed Chief-of-staff to Gen. Banks, and Col. Ingraham, 38th Mass., was put in command of the Brigade.

March 14th, the Army left Bâton Rouge, moving toward Port Hudson in two columns; one taking the Port Hudson turnpike and the other the Clinton road, in order to get in the rear of and between Clinton and Port Hudson. The 162d and one company of Cavalry, under command of Lt.-Col. Blanchard, were detached by Gen. Emory to make a reconnaissance upon a road in the rear of the Clinton road. Arriving, at daylight on the 15th, at certain cross-roads, three companies were detached, to proceed some four miles and burn certain bridges, which otherwise might enable the enemy to gain our rear and enter Bâton Rouge. This was accomplished, not without some skirmishing, in which, however, the companies did not lose a man. Lt.-Col. Blanchard was to proceed by a plank road as far as White Bayou, there to join a part of Grover's Division, taking care to apprise that General that he was in his rear to aid in any service that might present itself; which notice was given by Adjutant Leonard. The 162d remained there until night, when all went into camp on the Clinton Plank Road. The next morning Lt.-Col. Blanchard was ordered to report back at the cross-roads, and await further orders. After remaining there one day and night, the 162d was ordered back to its camp.

The various reconnoissances having developed a great disparity in the numbers of the opposing forces—not less than



50,000 Rebel soldiers being in and about Port Hudson, while Gen. Banks' army was less than 30,000, all told, and Farragut having executed his famous attempt to run the batteries—it was determined to postpone, for the time, further demonstrations against the formidable defenses of the place. The Army was, accordingly, withdrawn. April 1st, the 162d left Baton Rouge for Algiers, by the steamer St. Maurice, where it arrived on the following day, and remained until the 8th, when, with the army, it was transferred by the New Orleans, Opelousas and Great Western Railroad, to Brashear City, the *terminus* of the road. On the morning of the 9th, the 162d crossed to Berwick City, opposite Brashear City.

Here was organized the well-known Tèche Expedition. April 11th, the Army, Gen. Weitzel's Brigade leading, moved on Fort Bisland, 15 miles above Berwick City. Fort Bisland is a line of breastworks thrown up between Bayou Tèche and a swamp, about half a mile distant; protected by a ditch, 15 feet wide, which made scaling difficult.

On Sunday, April 12th, the 162d was deployed as skirmishers along the edge of the woods on the left. It advanced in this manner several miles, through corn and cane-fields, or over ploughed ground, most fatiguing to the men, who carried heavy knapsacks, not having yet learned how expedient it was to carry on such service only overcoats and blankets. Line of battle was formed several times, in expectation of attack from the wood. Finally, all the Brigades were formed in line of battle—each extending over half a mile of ground—Weitzel's Brigade in the advance, Paine's 2d, Ingraham's 3d, and Gooding's 4th. About 4 P. M. the action fairly commenced, the batteries being in position on each flank of the first three Brigades. After an Artillery duel of a couple of hours' duration, firing nearly ceased. At 7 P. M. the 162d was ordered to support Mack's Battery (the 18th N. Y.), in a grove on the edge of the Bayou, as it was apprehended that the *Diana*, a gunboat captured from us, might come down the Bayou and annoy us during the night. She had, in fact, done a principal part of the fighting on the Rebel side during



the afternoon. Piles had been driven across the Bayou by the Rebels, to prevent our gunboats coming to us. The Rebel sharp-shooters had occupied, and still continued to occupy, a number of negro cabins and other outbuildings, this side of their fortifications. The Diana, from half a mile up the Bayou, kept up a desultory firing through the night. In the mean time, Gen. Grover had crossed the Tèche and gone up on the other side, intending to recross at some convenient point above, and march down. Mistaking the road, he did not cross just where he had contemplated, and was, moreover, somewhat delayed, and found himself constrained to fight a severe battle at Irish Bend, a little above Franklin. At day-break the action was resumed by the Artillery. During the morning the sharp-shooters of the enemy were dislodged, by the demolition of the buildings that had sheltered them. About 3 P. M. the Infantry commenced firing, and made an unsuccessful assault. At 6 P. M. the 162d was detached from the Brigade, and ordered to report to Gen. Weitzel at the extreme front. Lt.-Col. Blanchard, who commanded, directed Adjutant Leonard to report to Gen. Weitzel and receive his orders; which were, to deploy four companies as pickets, along the edge of the woods, and the remaining six companies to be held in reserve; establishing themselves on the left of the first line of battle. The enemy threw a few shells, to oppose the regiment in taking its position. During the night the enemy made a hurried retreat, abandoning provisions, and nearly every thing besides. The camps were left standing, and some of the officers' quarters, built of cane, were quite commodious, and exhibited decided pretensions to elegance in construction. Between Gen. Banks' close pursuit of the enemy and Gen. Grover's convenient position at Franklin, about 2,000 prisoners fell into our hands. Halting for the night at Franklin, where four companies of the regiment were detailed for provost duty in the town, preparations were made for a vigorous pursuit of the enemy. At this place Col. Ingraham was obliged to turn back, on account of severe and increasing illness. He had been compelled to travel in an ambulance the day previous.



Just above Fort Bisland the Diana was found, totally destroyed, and, further up, the Hart was discovered in a similar condition—the Queen of the West was captured.

Texans, and troops raised in Western Louisiana, constituted the Rebel army doing duty in this part of the State. The prisoners exhibited a most hostile and revengeful disposition. So many sullen and vindictive countenances have rarely been seen together. There was much ill-feeling apparent between the Texans and Louisiana troops; the Texans not relishing fighting for the Louisianians. There were a number of half-blood Indians among the Texans.

The Brigade at this time was reduced to two regiments—the 110th and 162d N. Y., Col. Sage commanding,—the 4th Mass. and 16th N. H. having been left to garrison Brashear City.

Adjutant Leonard picked up in one of the abandoned quarters an order, signed by the Rebel Chief of Artillery, in which, after expressing regret for the defective character of the shells, he directed that perfect ones only should be used at short range. This may, to a degree, account for the small loss sustained by our troops—very few of the shells thrown by the enemy exploded.

At 4 A. M. of the 16th, the Army was again in motion, and about mid-day reached New Iberia, picking up on the way about 300 prisoners. After halting for an hour, the Infantry pushed on, the Cavalry in the mean time having had a skirmish in front, losing three or four, the enemy ten or twelve. At the cross-roads, one of which led to the Salt Works, and the other to Opelousas, and on which the skirmish occurred, the 162d was ordered to report to Gen. Grover, who took the road to Opelousas and marched to Vermilion Bayou, Gen. Emory taking the other in order to destroy the Salt Works, 7 miles from New Iberia. At Vermilion Bayou the bridge was found burning, and the enemy was shelled across the bayou. Two days and one night sufficed to rebuild the bridge, and on the 23d the troops entered Opelousas.

On the 24th Gen. Banks ordered the 162d, under command of Lt.-Col. Blanchard, to proceed to Barre's Landing on Bayou





Courtableau, about 8 miles from Opelousas, and occupy the place. A section of Artillery and a company of Cavalry accompanied, for the purpose of making captures in the adjacent district. On information furnished by colored spies, Lieut. Neville and a detachment was sent some five miles down the Bayou, where they seized a small steamer called the Ellen, used for navigating the Bayou and transporting stock and produce for the Rebels. The capture was reported to Gen. Banks, who sent an officer to survey the vessel, and being found staunch and in good order, she was sent to Brashear city, where she was put to service under the name of Col. Chandler. By aid of the Cavalry, the country was swept through a circuit of eight or nine miles. During the five days the 162d remained at the Landing, it captured more than 3,000 bales of cotton, a large quantity of sugar, and 110 horses and mules. The cotton and sugar were turned over to Gen. Grover on his arrival, and the horses and mules, by order, sent to Gen. Banks. On the 30th the 162d was relieved by Gen. Grover's division, and returned to Opelousas.

May 5th, the Army resumed its march for Alexandria, which was reached on the evening of the 11th, and found to be in the possession of our Naval Forces. On the 11th, Col. Benedict rejoined the 162d, to the great joy of every man in it. As he came on shore, and was receiving the congratulations of his friends on his return to health and the service, a passing wagon startled the horse of one of the officers, which knocked him down and so injured his leg, that he was obliged to return to the boat and remain on it while it made a trip to Brashear city and back.

The march to Alexandria was supposed to be a *ruse* on the part of Gen. Banks, to induce the Rebels to think Shreveport was his objective point. On the 17th, however, the Army retraced its steps to Cheneyville, and thence made a forced march to Semmesport, on the Atchafalaya, about ten miles from the Red River. Here Col. Benedict overtook the Army and assumed command of the remnant of his Brigade. The troops moved up to the source of the Atchafalaya, and to the junc-



tion of the Red and Mississippi Rivers, thence down the Mississippi to Morganzia, where the Army crossed by steam to Bayou Sara, 10 miles above Port Hudson.

On the 23d, orders were received through Gen. Andrews, Chief-of-staff, directing the 162d to proceed to St. Francisville, two miles inland, to join Gen. Paine, and thence southwardly to a point in the rear of Port Hudson, where it was to await the coming of Mack's Battery; the further purpose being to picket a certain road, to prevent the escape of the enemy. At 1 A. M., the point indicated was reached, and the 162d bivouacked in a church-yard; it raining heavily and the mud knee deep. The battery came up about daylight, and the regiment, under command of Lt.-Col. Blanchard, proceeded to join the 2d Division, to which it was temporarily attached, arriving in the midst of a severe action, in which it participated, and suffered some loss.

The enemy having been driven from his outer line of works, and our own forces being strengthened by the arrival of Weitzel's division, on the 26th, a general assault upon the enemy's works was ordered on the 27th. On this occasion the 162d was in Gen. Grover's line, and assaulted on the right of the enemy's works, crossing Sandy creek and driving the enemy through the woods into their fortifications. The 162d remained three days unrelieved, within a hundred yards of the enemy's works, suffering loss in killed and wounded. The fight on this line begun at 10 A. M., lasting until 4 P. M., and was severely contested throughout. Gen. Banks greatly commended the behavior of the troops, and expressed his belief that the post would have been captured but for their limited knowledge of the ground, and the character of the works, which were hidden from observation until the moment of approach. On the 30th, the 162d was relieved, marched some miles to the rear, and encamped for the night.

June 1st, the 162d moved to the extreme left of the lines, and with the 175th N. Y., reported to Gen. Wm. Dwight, who assigned them to the 1st Brig., 2d Div., and at once sent them to position in front, where they remained some days intrench-



ing, skirmishing and supporting batteries. June 13th, the 162d demonstrated heavily before the enemy, and lost some men. It returned to bivouac, and was transferred to 2d Brig., 2d Div. (Gen. Dwight's), preparatory to the general assault along the entire line of investment, which it had been decided should take place the next day.

This evening Col. Benedict arrived in camp, having been relieved of his command at Hermitage, or Fausse Point, directly opposite Port Hudson, where he had been stationed since the 23d of May, with a regiment of Infantry (110th N. Y.), two companies of Cavalry and a section of the 6th Mass. Artillery, in order to prevent the occupation of that point by the Rebels, egress from the fortifications of Port Hudson, or the receipt of communications or supplies by the garrison within them; and also to keep the country in his rear free from guerrillas or small hostile parties, and obtain information for use at head-quarters.

Immediately upon his arrival, Col. Benedict was put in command of 2d Brig., 2d Div., which consisted of the 162d N. Y., under Lt.-Col. Blanchard, the 175th N. Y., Col. Bryan, the 28th Maine and 48th Mass. At 12, midnight, orders were issued for an assault at daybreak. At 1 A. M., Col. Benedict moved the Brigade still farther to the left, opposite the lower sally-port of the enemy. On information received from a deserter, that there was a straight and plain road to the sally-port, and that the works were quite practicable at that point, the left, under Gen. Dwight, was ordered to assault there. By some miscarriage, orders failed to reach the 28th Maine, and the Brigade went into action with three regiments, numbering only 582 men.

The attack was commenced by the 1st Brigade, under Col. Clark of the 6th Mich., which, in a few minutes, was thrown into disorder. Gen. Dwight then ordered Col. Benedict to advance his Brigade, the 162d having the right, to the assistance of Col. Clark, and to march to the attack "in column of companies!" On reaching a level plateau, upon which the column entered from a wood, under cover of which it had



formed, it was met by a terrific fire of shot and shell, and a little farther on it came under a cross-fire of artillery that was nearly insupportable. Passing Clark's Brigade, the column pressed on to the verge of the plateau, only, however, to find itself confronted by a ravine, made impassable by felled timber, lying between it and the enemy's works, and exposed to a withering fire of all arms. Col. Benedict halted the column and ordered the men to seek cover; retreat, on account of their proximity to the enemy, threatening annihilation, while further advance was absolutely impossible. After coolly surveying the enemy's works from the edge of the ravine, Col. Benedict retraced the perilous road; for, being without an Aid for the purpose, he reported in person to Gen. Dwight the critical situation of his command, who, recognizing the necessity of the case, ordered the Brigade to lie where it was until the darkness of night might favor its withdrawal. After reporting, Colonel Benedict rejoined his men, having gone and returned on foot, through a hurricane of shot and shell, untouched.\*

The sufferings of that day will never be forgotten by any who survived or witnessed them. From morning till night the men lay under a burning sun, exhausted by fatigue and hunger, maddened by thirst, and many agonized by wounds. The slightest manifestation of life made the exhibitor a mark for a volley from the sharp-shooters of the enemy, who crowded the works that commanded the field, and many, in efforts to simulate death, endured more than its agonies.

The attack failed elsewhere throughout the lines as it did here, and, as might be expected, the casualties were numerous and severe. In this advance the brave Col. Bryan, of 175th N. Y., was killed. The 162d led the Brigade, and lost in killed, wounded and missing 51, out of 173, in action. Among the killed was Major Bogart, whose body was nearly

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\* NOTE.—For gallant conduct in this action, the Government, July 23, 1866, conferred on Colonel Benedict the rank of Brevet Brig.-General, to date from March 13, 1865.





sundered by a shell, which also passed through a Sergeant, a Corporal, and then exploded, carrying away the leg and arm of another Corporal.

The gallant Lieut. Neville, of Co. I, was wounded mortally, dying in hospital, at Bâton Rouge, on the 16th of July following. Lieut.-Col. Blanchard, commanding the regiment, escaped, though exposed to the hottest of the fire.

At 7 P. M. the Brigade was withdrawn, and the 162d was ordered to the support of a Mortar Battery, established about a mile to the right of the point it had assaulted in the morning.

The following day, June 15th, in General Orders, Gen. Banks called for a thousand Volunteers, to form a column to storm the enemy's works. Officers who might lead were assured of promotion, and both officers and privates were promised Medals of Commemoration, and that their names should "be placed in General Orders upon the Roll of Honor."

The response of this reduced regiment to this appeal was creditable. It offered the largest contingent of Volunteers to the Forlorn Hope of any regiment in the Department, and had the only complete company furnished by any one to the Battalion. Colonel Benedict volunteered to lead a Battalion. Adjutant Robt. W. Leonard, and three of the four line officers of the 162d, fit for duty, and fifty privates, out of one hundred and forty-nine, fit for duty, also volunteered.

The names of these officers and men were:

Capt.	William P. Huxford,	Co. G.	Private Patrick Ginet,	Co. E.
Lieut.	William Kennedy,	" E.	" Daniel Gray,	" E.
Lieut.	John H. Van Wyck,	" G.	" George Larimore,	" E.
Serg't	John H. McCormick,	" A.	" James McCall,	" E.
"	John E. Burke,	" B.	" Thomas Perry,	" E.
"	Henry Landt,	" C.	" Patrick Sweeney,	" E.
"	Frederick Schellhaus,	" C.	" Matthew Mullen,	" E.
Private	Anton Blustein,	" C.	Corp. Gustavus Norman,	" F.
"	William F. Eiselo,	" C.	Private John J. Thallman,	" F.
"	John Engel,	" C.	Serg't George W. Gibson,	" G.
"	Alexander Hermann,	" C.	" Edmund Nourse,	" G.
"	Leo Kalt,	" C.	Private William Ferguson,	" G.
"	Conrad Seigel,	" C.	" William Keating,	" G.



Serg't	William Kelly,	Co. D.	Corp.	Edward Murphy,	Co. I.
"	Theodore Churchill,	"	D.	Private David Hart,	" I.
Corp.	Thomas McConnell,	"	D.	" Max Miller,	" I.
Serg't	James Stack,	"	E.	" Joseph Martinese,	" I.
"	George W. Kelly,	"	E.	" George Welsh,	" I.
Corp.	James Ball,	"	E.	Corp. Peter Sherry,	" K.
"	Daniel D. Dunn,	"	E.	Private James Brady,	" K.
"	Lorenzo Lally,	"	E.	" Eugene Dietrich,	" K.
"	John McLaughlin,	"	E.	" John Frazier,	" K.
"	George W. Waite,	"	E.	" Joseph Gity,	" K.
Private	Peter Corbett,	"	E.	" Fleming Knipe,	" K.
"	Thomas Clary,	"	E.	" Dominick McConnell,	" K.
"	Thomas Duff,	"	E.	" Lewis Young,	" K.

June 20th, the 162d, under command of Lt.-Col. Blanchard, was sent to garrison Springfield Landing, on the Mississippi River, four miles below Port Hudson, the depot of supplies, which was threatened by raiders. On the morning of July 2d, about 300 of Logan's Cavalry made a descent upon the Landing. They captured the pickets before they could give an alarm, and nearly surprised the garrison. The 162d formed quickly, however, and, after a short but sharp contest, the enemy retreated with the loss of 2 officers killed, and upward of 20 privates killed or wounded. The 162d had but 190 men fit for duty at the time, and lost in killed 1, wounded and missing 8.

The 162d found this a most unwholesome locality, the necessities of the situation requiring it to encamp on swampy ground, an unfailing cause of fever throughout this country.

July 5th, Col. Benedict was relieved of the command of the Brigade and joined the 162d at Springfield Landing, on the 6th. On the morning of the 7th, information of the fall of Vicksburg was communicated to Gen. Gardner, the Rebel commander at Port Hudson. On the 8th, negotiations were entered into which resulted in the formal surrender of the works and garrison of Port Hudson on the 9th, to Gen. Andrews, Chief-of-Staff to Gen. Banks. This led to the disbanding of the Forlorn Hope and the breaking up of its camp, and the men composing it were returned to their respective regiments.



July 14th, the 162d left Springfield Landing and returned to Camp Nickerson, within a mile of Port Hudson, doing picket duty there until Aug. 22d. The health of the regiment improved here, its camp being on elevated ground. The sick list declined to an average of 70 per day.

About the middle of August, Gen. Banks reorganized the army, and the 162d, 110th and 165th N. Y., and 14th Maine, were constituted the 1st Brig., 3d Div., 19th Army Corps. Col. Benedict, who was serving at the time on Courts-Martial in New Orleans, was assigned to command the Brigade.

Aug. 22d, Lient.-Col. Blanchard and a detail, consisting of Capt. Huxford, Lient. Seaman and six enlisted men, went North to receive the quota of drafted men allotted to the 162d.

At the same time the 162d marched to Bâton Rouge and reported to Gen. Franklin. The camp of the 162d was unfavorably located, and again it was smitten by disease. Pestilential exhalations from the swamp in which the men lay, the extreme heat and hard duty, soon left scarcely a hundred effective men in the regiment.

At this place Adjutant Leonard was commissioned and mustered in as Major of the 162d.

Col. Benedict returned to the regiment Sept. 1st, and, according to orders, embarked it at Bâton Rouge, on the 2d, on the steamer North America. This craft had been built, originally, for the navigation of the Hudson River, and many years before had been pronounced unsafe for even its placid waters. In the fitting out of the Banks Expedition, this old hulk had been imposed on the Government, and actually brought troops to New Orleans! On this occasion the 162d, by incessant pumping, kept her afloat until New Orleans was reached, when, Col. Benedict refusing to proceed any farther in her, a survey was called which condemned her, and soon after she sunk quietly at the dock. The regiment was transferred to the steamship R. C. Winthrop, belonging to an expedition then preparing, the destination of which, however, was kept secret.



Sept. 4th, the ship sailed for the place of rendezvous for the vessels of the Expedition, off Berwick Bay, which made it apparent that Texas was the quarter in which it was to operate. The land forces consisted of the 19th Army Corps; and the fleet was convoyed by a naval force of four light-draft gunboats, the Arizona, Clifton, Granite City and Sachem, the whole under command of Maj.-Gen. Franklin. It turned out that the expedition was designed to capture and occupy Sabine City, at the mouth of the river of that name, and the entire fleet was ordered to arrive off Sabine Pass by midnight of the 7th, in order that the attack might be made early on the morning of the 8th. This, however, was not accomplished, because, owing to the absence of the blockading vessel, which was relied upon to indicate the point, the fleet ran by in the night, and the attack was finally made toward evening on the 8th. The Pass seemed to be well fortified and was certainly audaciously defended, so that after the total loss of two of the gunboats, the Clifton and Sachem, the most serviceable of all considering the shallowness of the water, the fleet returned to New Orleans. It is said this ill-fated enterprise was not favored by the most experienced soldiers in the Department, and that the Commanding General, as well as Gen'ls Emory and Weitzel, preferred Brownsville as an objective point.

On the 11th, the 162d went into camp at Algiers, where Col. Benedict assumed command of the Brigade, Gen. Nickerson repairing to New Orleans. On the 15th, the 162d left Algiers for Brashear City, whither it had been preceded by a portion of the Army, and was followed by the remainder. Two divisions of the 13th Corps had come down the river and were attached to the 19th Corps, in order to strengthen it for a second Campaign through Western Louisiana. On the 18th, the 162d crossed to Berwick City, and on the 24th, the 19th Corps moved up to Camp Bisland, about a mile above the remains of the fort of that name. The ground seemed not to have been trodden by human foot since the battle there nearly six months before. Skeletons of horses lay where they had fallen, immense flocks of carrion birds hovered over the place,





a luxuriant growth of weeds, ten feet high, covered the cane-fields, the sugar houses remained unrepaired—the whole scene was one of utter desolation. Oct. 2d, the Army moved toward Opelousas, where it arrived on the 14th, having marched leisurely, occasionally skirmishing. At Opelousas, Grover's Division occupied the town, and Weitzel's Division and the 13th Corps, Barre's Landing. Nov. 1st, the Army fell back to Carrion Crow Bayou, the object of the march being accomplished; which was to create a diversion in favor of another portion of the Army sent to seize Brownsville on the Rio Grande, by drawing Confederate troops from Texas to oppose the advance of this one.

After an unimportant skirmish at this Bayou, the 19th Corps moved to Vermilion Bayou, leaving the 13th Corps behind, which was surprised by the enemy a few days after, and lost a number of men and one piece of artillery. Weitzel's Division was at once sent to the rescue, and brought the 13th Corps to Vermilion Bayou, where it was put in a position of safety.

Nov. 11th, it was reported to Maj.-Gen. Franklin that a large force of the enemy was concentrating at or near Carrion Crow Bayou, and he directed Brig.-Gen. A. L. Lee, Chief of Cavalry, to make a reconnoissance in force with all his available Cavalry, in order to ascertain the numbers and position of the enemy.

The Cavalry Division, consisting of two Brigades of eight hundred each, started from Vermilionville for Carrion Crow Bayou, (distant twelve miles due North), at 6.30 A. M., and soon commenced driving the pickets of the enemy back to their reserve of six hundred. A running fight then ensued for some eight miles, ending in General Lee's charging them vigorously and driving them in confusion into a dense wood. Nimm's battery of light flying artillery was quickly brought up, and, after shelling the woods, General Lee advanced his whole force in line of battle through the woods, and found the enemy also drawn up in line of battle on the opposite side of a prairie, about two miles in width, numbering, as near as could be



estimated, about seven thousand. Upon discovering that the enemy outnumbered his force four to one, and having accomplished the object of his reconnoissance, General Lee ordered his Cavalry to retreat.

The enemy, apprehending his intention, sent a large force to make a demonstration on Lee's left flank, upon which the Gen. dispatched the 1st (Col. Lucas') Brigade, to protect the left flank, while he himself, in person, remained with the main column on the road.

Col. Benedict had been ordered to advance with his Brigade about a mile beyond Vermilion Bayou, and hold himself in readiness to support Gen. Lee. After having been about an hour in position, an order came from Gen. Lee that the Brigade should proceed up the road. About four miles up, Col. Benedict was met by a message that Gen. Lee was retreating before a superior force, and directing him to take a position where his troops would be masked, in order that Gen. Lee might turn and make a dash at the enemy's cavalry. The Colonel selected the East side of a prairie about 1,200 yards wide—posting the men in the ditches, Nimm's Battery in the rear of the left flank, and Trull's of the right—a position in which his eight hundred and odd could have fought five thousand. Gen. Lee retired behind him, in order to entice the enemy into the open prairie, but they were too wary, and opened with artillery. This was replied to with vigor, and for an hour the fire was pretty hot; the Rebels suffering severely. Then, after failing in an attempt to outflank, they sought cover behind fences and in ditches, and retired. The Brigade was so well protected that it had but 1 killed and 4 wounded; one of the latter belonging to the 162d.

Dec. 1st, the 162d went into winter quarters at New Iberia. It having been greatly reduced by disease and casualties, and the 174th N. Y. being also in a similar condition, an application was made to consolidate the two regiments.

Dec. 5th, Lieut.-Col. Blanchard returned from the North, bringing with him Capt. Frank T. Johnson and a company of drafted men. These men, 46 in number, were drafted in the



18th Congressional District, N. Y., August 11, 1863, and joined the 162d at New Iberia, La., Dec. 10, 1863. (See mem. on Master-out Roll of Co. H.)

Dec. 15th, the 162d went to Franklin, La., to relieve Col. Fearing of the 8th N. H., Lieut.-Col. Blanchard taking command of the post.

Feb. 17th, 1864, consolidation took place under Gen. Order No. 47, H'd-Qrs. 19th Army Corps, of that date, by which each company of the 174th was merged in the corresponding company of the 162d, thus raising the effective strength of the regiment to 576 officers and men; 914 present and absent.

By this consolidation, the services of Surgeon William B. Eager, Jr., were lost to the 162d. He had earned the approbation of Gen. T. W. Sherman, at the Parapet (Defenses of New Orleans); of Gen. Dwight (at Port Hudson), and of Maj.-Gen. Franklin (on the Tèche). Upon leaving the regiment he received a written testimonial from Col. Benedict, who affirmed, that for "skill, energy and faithfulness," he had not met the equal of Surgeon Eager, neither "in the service here, nor in the division to which he was attached on the Potomac."

From the same cause the retirement of the faithful and popular Major Robert W. Leonard proceeded.

Early in Jan., 1864, the Army was concentrated at Franklin, La., and what is known and generally deplored as the Red River Expedition, was organized. The 162d was assigned to the 3d Brig., 1st Div., 19th Army Corps, Col. Benedict commanding. Maj.-Gen. Franklin commanded the Corps, and Gen. Emory the Division.

March 15th, the Division moved to enter upon the Red River Campaign, and, traversing the rich flats of Lower Louisiana, reached Alexandria on the 25th,—a distance of one hundred and sixty miles,—skirmishing lightly on the way. On the 27th, the march was continued to Natchitoches, where the Army encamped on the 31st, to await the arrival of the provision transports. Gen. Banks, and Com. Porter with his fleet, were at Grand Ecce, four miles above. A reconnois-



sance having been made in order to ascertain the strength and position of the enemy at and beyond Pleasant Hill, the whole Army marched from Natchitoches on the morning of April 6th. After a tedious march through rain and mud, the Brigade arrived at Pleasant Hill on the evening of the 7th, and bivouacked, the wagons not having come up. At 8 o'clock, the next morning, the march was resumed, and in the afternoon it encamped at Mill Spring, some 11 miles Northwest of Pleasant Hill. At 4.30 P. M., the men being engaged in cooking rations, orders came to prepare to move forward; and the Brigade, third in the Division column, soon commenced a march at double quick toward Sabine Cross Roads, near Mansfield, a distance of six miles, arriving there at 6 P. M., just in time to cover the retreat of the 13th Corps, which had been routed, and check the advance of the enemy. On approaching the position chosen by Gen. Emory for these purposes, the Brigade was met by a demoralized mass of flying Cavalry, infantry, artillerymen and camp followers, crowding together in the midst of wagons and ambulances, which indicated the serious condition of affairs. Entering the field to the left of the road, the troops were instantly deployed in line in the following order: the 162d, under command of Lt.-Col. Blanchard, on the right of the Brigade, resting on the left of the 2d Brigade; the 173d N. Y. on the left of the 162d; both regiments being on the crest of a hill, the enemy behind a similar crest opposite. The 30th Maine was deployed in the rear of the 173d N. Y., with the 165th N. Y. on its left and a few rods in advance. The Brigade was scarcely in position when it received the fire of the enemy, who, encouraged by previous successes, came on, as if already the field was won. They were received, however, by such a fire as put further advance out of the question, although they continued the attack with bravery and perseverance, at a great cost of life. The maintenance of his position by Emory was indispensable to the safety of the Army, of which emergency the enemy appeared to be as conscious as himself. Hence their desperate determination to turn his left, held by





Col. Benedict's Brigade. One vigorous effort that was made towards night, was so bloodily repulsed, that the Rebels not only recoiled, but fled, leaving their dead and wounded where they fell. In this repulse the 162d and the 173d New York were mainly instrumental, and it closed the fighting at this point.

The glory of saving the day was then, and still is, conceded on all hands to Emory and his Division of the 19th Corps, and was earned by as desperate fighting as was witnessed during the war. Col. Benedict was much commended for the manner in which he fought his Brigade.

Toward midnight the Army took up its march for Pleasant Hill, a better position; and it was understood, besides, that Gen. A. J. Smith's command, the 16th Corps, had reached there, while it was obvious that the forces had better be concentrated as much as possible. Arriving there early the next morning, the Brigade took its final position behind a ditch at the foot of a slope in front, another slope rising in the rear, and awaited the coming of the enemy. It was not until after 4 P. M. that the skirmishers were attacked and driven in, and very soon after, the Brigade, which was posted 500 yards in advance of the second line of battle, with its left in an open field and wholly unprotected, received the brunt of the Rebel charge. Outflanked and outnumbered, slowly but steadily, the men were forced back and up the acclivity, suffering heavily from the fire of the enemy, until they filed in behind Gen. Smith's men, where they re-formed. The Rebels, confident in their numbers and exhilarated by success, came on exultingly, but were met by a tempest of shot, shell and bullets, that nearly annihilated their first line of battle; and, before they had recovered from the shock, Gen. Smith's men and ours were upon them in a charge led by Gen. Mower. The Rebels recoiled — they were pushed down the slope and up the opposite acclivity, until they reached the woods, when they broke and fled, the Brigade pursuing them some miles.

In the conflict down the slope, and while rallying the men to the charge, Col. Benedict fell. His conspicuous bravery



made him a mark for the enemy, and, according to their tactics, he must have been the target for a volley. He received five balls; one through each arm, one through the leg, above the knee, one in the left foot, and one through the head. A superior officer said truly, "Of those who fell that day at Pleasant Hill, there was no one so universally regretted. His great gallantry in the field and his courtesy in camp had won him many friends, as well among the troops he commanded as the officers with and under whom he served."

The 162d lost, also, Capt. Frank T. Johnson, Co. H, a true patriot and most efficient officer; 2d Lieut. T. A. Scudder, Co. D; Color Serg'ts James Ball, Co. F, and John A. Homann, Co. K.

Capt. Eugene S. Eunson, Co. C, was wounded; also 1st Lieut. Henry P. Fisher, Co. I, and 2d Lieut. Madison K. Finley, Co. F.

George W. Gibson, 2d Lieut. Co. G, and Serg't-Major H. P. Fitch, were taken prisoners.

The loss of the 162d in this action was 7 officers and 114 men, killed, wounded and missing.

At 3 A. M., of the 10th, the line of march was taken up for Grand Ecore, which was reached on the second day thereafter, where the army reposed some days; the Brigade, meanwhile, building a superior breastwork.

April 20th, the army left Grand Ecore on its return to Alexandria. Everything necessary in order to a prompt evacuation of the place having been prepared, at 5 P. M. all moved at once; Gen. A. J. Smith's, the 16th Corps, bringing up the rear. The Army marched all night. The next day the rear guard skirmished with the enemy. All the mills and barns on the route were given to the flames. The next day, 23d, marching five miles, to the ford of Cane River, a Rebel force was found posted on a high bluff on the opposite side, commanding the ford, which made it impracticable to lay the pontoons. The Brigade was ordered to ford the river about a mile above and attack the rebels in the rear; which was done. The position was one of great natural strength, but



our men bravely pressed forward. At the commencement of the action, Col. Francis Fessenden, of the 30th Maine, was badly wounded in the leg, and the command of the Brigade devolved upon Lt.-Col. Blanchard, who gallantly led the charge. The enemy were driven from the hill, and the Colors of the 162d, closely followed by the 30th Maine, planted on the works. Lt.-Col. Blanchard retained command of the Brigade until Semmesport was reached.

Here Sergeant Williams, another color-bearer, was badly wounded, after having placed his colors on the summit of the hill. Lieut. Wm. C. Hawes, Co. I, a brave and intelligent officer, was mortally wounded; and Lieut. Stack, Co. E, severely. The loss of the 162d was 2 officers and 35 men killed and wounded.

Remaining on the field that night, the next morning the march to Alexandria was resumed; encamping there the next day in a position to protect the gunboats, which were hard aground above the rapids. This fleet was finally extricated by the genius and skill of Lieut.-Col. Bailey, (since Brevet Brig.-General), who threw a dam across the river, which raised the water and enabled the vessels to float. On May 13th, the retreat was continued toward the mouth of Red River, with incessant skirmishing. On the 16th, the enemy were encountered at a small town called Mansura, in a position provided with heavy batteries. An artillery duel was kept up for some five or six hours, when the enemy retreated, the infantry on neither side having fired a shot. The march was resumed, and, on the 17th, Semmesport, on the Atchafalaya, was reached, and the 162d assisted in building a bridge of steamboats, on which the army crossed. From Semmesport the route was to Morganzia, on the Mississippi, which was reached on the 22d; and the 162d went into camp on the bank of the river, and remained there until the evening of the 2d of July.

June 18th, while at Morganzia, Lieut.-Col. Blanchard was mustered in as Colonel of the 162d, with rank from April 9th, the day of the battle of Pleasant Hill; and, on the 26th,



Capt. J. D. Vandenburg as Lieut.-Col., vice Blanchard, promoted.

July 2d, the 162d embarked on transports with the rest of the Brigade, and on the 4th of July landed and encamped at Algiers, opposite New Orleans, where it remained until ordered to embark for Virginia. July 8th, the 162d went on board the steamer C. C. Leary, and after a stormy passage of eleven days, reached Fortress Monroe, where it was ordered to report to Maj.-Gen. Butler at Bermuda Hundred. On arriving there, Col. Blanchard, who was sick, obtained leave of absence for twenty days. The 162d landed and encamped, remaining some three days, when it was ordered to Deep Bottom to report to Gen. Foster. Arriving there, it crossed the James River on pontoons, and at once proceeded to dig trenches and throw up fortifications. The 162d had out a strong picket on the New Market road, which was attacked by the enemy in force. The 162d went up about dark, under command of Lt.-Col. Vandenburg, to strengthen it, and fell into an ambuscade at the point where the pickets had been captured. Nearly one company belonging to the right of the 162d had been captured, together with Capt. William P. Huxford, Co. G. The 162d fell back, posting the left as skirmishers, and held the ground the next day and night. On the morning of the second day, 26th, the Rebels opened on the camp with four 20-pound Parrott guns, and, having a whole division of troops, would have captured the regiment entire but for the timely arrival of Hancock's (2d) Corps, which had crossed during the night. The enemy were soon routed, losing the four pieces of artillery. The 162d lost more than one-third of its effective strength present, viz.: 16 killed and wounded, and 44 taken prisoners.

The next day, 27th, the 162d embarked for Washington, arriving there on the 29th; and encamped one night at Chain Bridge, when it was ordered to Monocacy, Md. Taking the cars at Washington, it reached its destination on Sunday night, July 31, and went into camp. Aug. 5th, the 162d went by cars to Harper's Ferry and encamped on Maryland Heights.





The next day it crossed the Potomac and encamped at Halltown. The day following it marched *via* Charlestown, Berryville and Bunker Hill, to Winchester. Thence it went to Cedar Creek, 13 miles beyond, from which point, closely followed by the enemy, the Army fell back to Summit Point; the 162d forming part of the escort of the Army train. Halting one day, the Army fell back to Flowing Spring, about 8 miles from Harper's Ferry, where Col. Blanchard, having regained his health, rejoined the regiment. On the 21st, the 162d went to Bolivar Heights, where it threw up breastworks and remained until the 28th, when the Army advanced to Winchester; the Brigade remaining to escort trains to and from Charlestown. Oct. 5th, the 162d went to Martinsburgh and encamped, it having been detailed to escort prisoners from Winchester to that place, and return with trains. Oct. 19th, the day of the Great Battle, the Brigade was in line on the lower side of Winchester to intercept stragglers from the front, and be ready to act in any emergency that might arise. The services of the Brigade in the Valley were, perhaps, more useful than conspicuous—still they were not lightly appreciated by the commanding General. In his judgment they were important enough to entitle it to share in the glory of his campaign, and it is by his special order that the several regiments of the Brigade bear upon their colors the proud inscription,—"Sheridan's Campaign in Shenandoah Valley, 1864."

Nov. 6th, the Brigade rejoined its Corps at Cedar Creek, which fell back to Camp Russell, near Newtown, on the 9th, and remained in camp until Dec. 29th, when it moved to Camp Sheridan, Stevenson's Depot, and proceeded to build winter quarters. It was beginning to be comfortable in them when the Brigade was ordered to garrison Winchester, 5 miles distant. The 162d encamped on the high ground, half a mile South of the city. Its principal duty was to guard the roads in that section of country, although it performed much picket duty also.

April 2d, 1865, Col. Blanchard was ordered to make a reconnoissance of Snicker's Gap and Barry's Ford on the



Shenandoah river, 26 miles from Winchester. Leaving at 6 A. M. on the morning of the 2d, he returned on the 3d, having made a thorough survey of the country indicated. He was then ordered to join the Brigade at Camp Russell, 10 miles from Winchester, the point at which Gen. Hancock was concentrating a force preparatory to a march down the valley, with the ultimate purpose of joining Gen. Grant before Richmond. The 162d reached its destination early on the morning of the 4th, to meet the news of the fall of Richmond, and to share the joy it occasioned. April 6th, it marched and encamped at Mill Creek, 2 miles from Winchester. April 8th, it left for Summit Point, on the Potomac and Winchester Railroad, and arrived there about 9 P. M. April 12th, it was ordered to guard the Railroad from Charlestown to Wood's Station, a distance of about 8 miles.

April 20th, the 162d, together with the whole of Dwight's Division, left for Washington, performing the distance by railroad, and arriving there the next day. On the 22d the encampment was on the National Race Course grounds. April 25th, the 3d Brigade changed its encampment to ground near Fort Meigs, a pleasant location in a fine field falling to the lot of the 162d. The Brigade guarded the country from Fort Meigs to the high grounds opposite Alexandria, a distance of some 8 or 10 miles, by a continuous line of pickets. May 23d, the 162d participated in the Grand Review, and occupied a prominent position in the line,—the right of the 9th Corps. While at Fort Meigs, the 162d was presented by the City of New York with a new stand of Colors, consisting of 2 flags and 2 guidons. These replaced the war-worn Colors of the regiment, which had been forwarded to the Bureau of Military Record, at Albany, March 4, 1865. After the 162d was mustered out, these Colors were also deposited in the Bureau of Military Record, Nov. 27, 1865.

June 27th, the 3d Brigade embarked on the steamship Northern Light for Savannah, Ga., where it arrived July 1st, after a pleasant voyage, and encamped on grounds just outside of the city defenses.



Early on the morning of July 24th, the 3d Brigade, Col. Blanchard commanding, commenced its march for Hawkinsville, Ga., a distance of 200 miles, the route being mainly through pine forests. At 9 A. M. of Aug. 5, the Brigade reached Hawkinsville. The 162d was detailed for provost duty in the town. It went into camp on the lawn in front of the Court House. The regiment, at this time, was under command of Lieut.-Col. Vandemburgh, Col. Blanchard, according to orders, having assumed command of the Third Sub-District of Ocmulgee, Ga. (See General Orders, No. 4, 1st Dis. Dep't Ga., Dist. of Savannah.) While in this command, Col. Blanchard visited Andersonville, and discovered the grave of Private A. Amigh, Co. K, 162d, but failed to identify those of two members of Co. H, of the same regiment, reported as having perished in the prison at that place.

Sept. 24th, orders were received, directing the 162d to proceed, by railroad, to Savannah, in order to be mustered out of service.

Sept. 26th, the 162d left Hawkinsville for Savannah by the Macon R. R., *via* Augusta.

Oct. 2d, it arrived at Savannah and encamped on grounds near the City Jail, and on the 12th was mustered out of service.

Oct. 14th, it sailed for New York, on the Steamer Chase, and, arriving on the 18th, was ordered to Hart's Island, N. Y. Harbor.

Oct. 21st, the 162d was paid off, by Paymaster Phelps, and its property turned over to the United States.

On the Rolls, 473. Present, 353.

The service of the 162d was faithful and efficient enough to entitle it to share in the secure fame of the Nineteenth Army Corps, and to justify the expressions of appreciation the Regiment received in high quarters; and the honors conferred upon its officers, earned by valorous conduct in more than one Military Department, were worthily bestowed.

The General Government, in recognition of the services of Col. Blanchard, made him Brevet Brigadier-General of U. S. Vols., Sept. 28th, 1865, with rank from March 13th, 1865.



The Governor of New York breveted Major John B. Babcock Lieut.-Colonel, for gallantry at Port Hudson, in the Red River campaign, and the Shenandoah Valley.

The Governor bestowed the Brevet rank of Major upon Capt. Eugene S. Emuson, for gallantry at Pleasant Hill, La., and for general meritorious services; and the Brevet rank of Major upon Capt. John G. Leefe also, for gallantry in Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley campaign, and for general meritorious services.





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## APPENDIX.

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HEAD-QUARTERS 162D N. Y. VOLS., }  
NEAR WINCHESTER, VA., *March 14, 1865.* }

**COLONEL:** In accordance with the provisions of the Act, establishing a Bureau of Military Statistics in New York, I have the honor to transmit herewith the Regimental Colors of my command. At the organization of the Regiment, Oct. 18, 1862, these Colors were presented to it by the State of New York. They are two in number; and consist of the National Flag, and a blue silk flag, on the center of which is painted the National Coat of Arms.

The Regiment was raised in the City of New York and formed one of the Metropolitan Brigade.

The original Field Officers were Col. Lewis Benedict, Lt.-Col. J. W. Blanchard and Major James H. Bogart. In November, 1862, it was sent to New Orleans on Gen. Banks' Expedition; the troops of which were afterward organized as the 19th Army Corps.

The Colors were carried through the siege of Port Hudson, in the summer of 1863, and it was there that a charge of grape tore the Union out of the National flag. They were borne in the following engagements: At Fort Bisland, on the 13th and 14th of April, 1863; in the assault on Port Hudson, on the 27th May, 1863, where the Regiment lost 2 officers and 33 men, killed and wounded; in the second assault, on the 14th June, where its loss was 2 officers and 60 men; and, at Springfield Landing, on the 2d July of the same year. In the Red River Campaign, of last Spring, the Colors were present at the fight of Sabine Cross Roads, April 8th; at Pleasant Hill, April 9th, where Col. Benedict, commanding Brigade, was killed, and the Regiment lost 7 officers and 114 men, killed, wounded and missing; and,



at Cane River Crossing, April 23d, where 2 officers and 35 men were killed or wounded.

Four times have these Colors been shot down in battle, two of their Bearers killed and two wounded. But, they have never been out of the Regiment's possession, and are now returned to the original donor.

I have the honor to be, Colonel, with great respect,

Your Obedt. Serv't,

J. W. BLANCHARD,

Com'ng 162d, N. Y. V. I.

Col. LOCKWOOD L. DOTY, Albany, N. Y.

NOTE. The State Colors of 174th N. Y., consolidated with 162d, Feb. 17, 1864, were thereafter carried with the Colors of the 162d.

# INSCRIPTIONS ON THE COLORS OF 162d REG. N. Y. VOL. INFANTRY.

*Presented by the City of New York, May, 1865.]*

FORT BISLAND, La., April 13 and 14, 1863.

\* PLAINS STORE, La., May 21, 1863.

SIEGE OF PORT HUDSON, May 27, and June 14, 1863.

SPRINGFIELD LANDING, La., July 2, 1863.

\* COX'S PLANTATION, La., July 13, 1863.

SABINE CROSS ROADS, La., April 8, 1864.

PLEASANT HILL, La., April 9, 1864.

CANE RIVER BLUFF, La., April 23, 1864.

MANSURA, La., May 15, 1864.

DEEP BOTTOM, Va., July 25, 1864.

SHERIDAN'S CAMPAIGN IN SHENANDOAH VALLEY,  
1864.

\* These engagements were participated in by the 174th N. Y. V. Infantry, prior to its consolidation with the 162d.



# ROSTER OF THE 162d REGIMENT N. Y. S. VOL. INFANTRY.

## AT MUSTER-IN.

Rank.	Name.	Age.	Residence.	Date Com.	Date Rank.	Date Muster U. S. Service.	Remarks.
Col.	Lewis Benedict, .....	45	Albany, N. Y.,	Sept. 9, '62	Sept. 9, '62	Oct. 18, '62	At Riker's Island, N. Y.
Lt.-Col.	James W. Blanchard, .....	45	" "	Sept. 12, '62	" 9, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Major.	James H. Bogart, .....	24	" "	Oct. 16, '62	" 16, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Adj't.	Robert W. Leonard, .....	21	New York,	Dec. 3, '62	" 15, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Q-Master.	Wm. H. Albertson, .....	43	" "	" 3, '62	" 10, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Surgeon.	William B. Eager, Jr., .....	37	" "	" 3, '62	" 27, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Ass't Surg.	William H. Hozier, .....	29	" "	" 3, '62	" 29, '62	" 18, '62	" "
Ass't Surg.	David M. Browne, .....	25	" "	" 3, '62	" 6, '62	" 18, '62	" "
<b>Company A.</b>							
Capt.	Michael Mitchell, .....	33	New York, .....	Dec. 3, '62	Sept. 8, '62	Oct. 18, '62	" "
1st Lieut.	David B. Johnston, .....	32	" "	" "	" 8, '62	" 18, '62	" "
2d Lieut.	Ross Degan, .....	33	Albany, N. Y.,	" 3, '62	Oct. 16, '62	" 18, '62	" "
16 Non-Commissioned Officers; 70 Privates.—Total 86. Absentees 10.							
<b>Company B.</b>							
Capt.	James S. King, .....	27	New York, .....	Dec. 3, '62	Sept. 20, '62	Oct. 14, '62	" "
1st Lieut.	John G. Leece, .....	25	" "	" 3, '62	" 20, '62	" 14, '62	" "
2d Lieut.	Sam'l C. Havens, .....	19	" "	" 3, '62	" 20, '62	" 14, '62	" "
10 Non-Commissioned Officers; 67 Privates.—Total 83. Absentees 3.							
<b>Company C.</b>							
Capt.	Nicholas Wender, .....	32	New York, .....	Dec. 3, '62	Oct. 1, '62	Oct. 14, '62	" "
1st Lieut.	George B. Bord, .....	45	" "	" 3, '62	" 11, '62	" 14, '62	" "
2d Lieut.	George Engert, .....	42	" "	" 3, '62	" 1, '62	" 14, '62	" "
13 Non-Commissioned Officers; 72 Privates.—Total 85. Absentees 3.							









## Company I.

Capt.,.....	41	New York,....	Dec.	3, '62	Oct.	7, '62	Oct.	18, '62	"	"
1st Lieut.,...	18	"	"	3, '62	"	7, '62	"	18, '62	"	"
2d Lieut.,...	23	"	"	3, '62	"	7, '62	"	18, '62	"	"

15 Non-Commissioned Officers; 66 Privates.—Total 81. Absentees 11.

## Company K.

Capt.,.....	23	New York,....	Dec.	3, '62	Oct.	1, '62	Oct.	18, '62	"	"
1st Lieut.,...	24	"	"	3, '62	"	1, '62	"	18, '62	"	"
2d Lieut.,...	25	"	"	3, '62	"	1, '62	"	18, '62	"	"

14 Non-Commissioned Officers; 68 Privates.—Total 82. Absentees 13.



## CHANGES IN THE FIELD AND STAFF OF 103d REG. N. Y. VOL. INFANTRY.

Name.	Rank.	Mustered at.	Date Muster.	Remarks.
1 Justus W. Blanchard,.....	Col.,.....	Morgauzia, La.,.....	June 18, '64	Promoted from Lieut.-Col.
2 James M. Vandenburgh,....	1st-Col.,....	Morgauzia, La.,.....	June 20, '64	Caplain Co. A, 17th N. Y.
3 Edward E. Van De Warker,...	Surgeon,....	Cedar Creek, Va.,.....	Aug. 26, '64	Promoted from Assistant-Surgeon.
1 Charles Small,.....	Q-Master,...	Cedar Creek, Va.,.....	Sept. 21, '64	Promoted from Commissary-Sergeant.
<b>Dismissed.</b>				
1 James Q. Miles, .....	Adjutant,....	Franklin, La., .....	Sept. 1, '63	Cashiered April 9, '64, II-Q's Dept. Gmf.
<b>Discharged.</b>				
1 George Keating,.....	Major,.....	New Orleans, La., .....	Dec. 9, '62	From 17th. Discharged June 9, '64.
2 Robert W. Leonard,.....	Major,.....	Baton Rouge, La., .....	Sept. 1, '63	Promoted from Adj't. Discharged Feb. 5, '64.
3 John B. Babcock,.....	Major,.....	Camp Sheridan, Va.,....	Jan. 1, '65	From 17th. Promoted from Adj't to Capt. Co. K, Dec. 9, '64.
1 John E. Burke,.....	Adjutant,....	Camp Sheridan, Va.,....	Jan. 26, '65	Resigned July 23, '65.
2 Wm. H. Albertson,.....	Q-Master,...	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	Serge. Co. B, 1st Lieut. Co. D. Resigned July 28, '65.
3 Robert Emmett,.....	Q-Master,...	New Iberia, La.,.....	Dec. 4, '64	Resigned Feb. 26, '63.
1 William B. Eager, Jr.,.....	Surgeon,....	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	2d Lieut. Co. K, 1st Lieut. Co. C. Discharged Aug. 23, '64.
2 William H. Hozier,.....	Surgeon,....	Port Hudson, La.,.....	Jan. 12, '63	to accept appointment of A. Q. M.
3 Field L. Adams,.....	Asst.-Surg.,	Baton Rouge, La.,.....	Oct. 20, '62	From 17th. Discharged April 9, '64.
2 David M. Brown,.....	Asst.-Surg.,	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	Enrolled April 15, '63. Disc. by consolidation, Feb. 17, '64.
3 John Robinson,.....	Asst.-Surg.,	Washington, D. C.,....	Oct. 18, '62	Discharged Oct. 10, '64.
4 William G. Mechem,.....	Asst.-Surg.,	Camp Russell, Va.,....	Nov. 8, '64	Discharged Oct. 10, '64.
1 Alanson B. Hoyt,.....	Chaplain,...	New Orleans, La.,.....	Jan. 11, '64	Enrolled Oct. 10, '64. Discharged May 20, '65.
<b>Mustered Out.</b>				
1 William H. Hozier,.....	Asst.-Surg.,	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	Enrolled Sept. 12, '62. Mustered out to accept promotion as Surgeon of 17th, May, '63.
<b>Killed.</b>				
1 Lewis Benedict, .....	Col.,.....	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	Enrolled Sept. 12, '62. Killed in action at Pleasant Hill, Upper La., April 9, '64, in command of 2d Brig., 1st Div., 19th A. C.
2 James H. Bogart,.....	Major,.....	New York, N. Y.,.....	Oct. 18, '62	Enrolled Sept. 12, '62. Killed in action at Fort Hudson, La., June 14, '63.



**ROSTER OF ALL OFFICERS COMMISSIONED IN  
THE 162d REG. N. Y. S. VOL. INFANTRY.**

Name.	Date of Commission.	Date of Rank.
<i>Colonels:</i>		
Lewis Benedict, .....	1862, September 9	1862, September 9
Justus W. Blanchard, .....	1864, May 31	1864, April 9
<i>Lieutenant-Colonels:</i>		
Justus W. Blanchard, .....	1862, September 12	1862, September 9
James M. Vandenberg, ....	1864, June 6	1864, April 9
<i>Majors:</i>		
James H. Bogart, .....	1862, October 16	1862, October 16
Robert W. Leonard, .....	1863, August 10	1863, June 14
George W. Keating, .....	.....	.....
Frederick W. Coleman, ....	1864, July 9	1864, July 9
John B. Babcock, .....	1864, December 7	1864, December 1
William P. Huxford, .....	1865, August 31	1865, July 23
<i>Adjutants:</i>		
Robert W. Leonard, .....	1862, December 2	1862, September 15
James Q. Miles, .....	1863, August 8	1863, August 8
John B. Babcock, .....	1864, June 6	1864, April 9
John E. Burke, .....	1865, January 20	1864, December 1
<i>Quarter-Masters:</i>		
William H. Albertson, .....	1862, December 3	1862, September 10
John G. Leefe, .....	1863, August 10	1863, February 24
Robert Emmett, .....	1863, November 13	1863, February 24
Charles Small, .....	1864, September 13	1864, September 2
<i>Surgeons:</i>		
William B. Eager, Jr., .....	1862, December 3	1862, September 2
William H. Hozier, .....	.....	.....
Edward E. Van De Warker, .	1864, July 20	1864, April 9
<i>Assistant-Surgeons:</i>		
William H. Hozier, .....	1862, December 3	1862, September 29
Edward E. Van De Warker, .	1863, July 7	1863, July 6
David M. Browne, .....	1862, December 3	1862, October 6
James L. Adams, .....	1863, April 18	1863, April 17
John A. Robinson, .....	1864, August 15	1864, August 3
William G. Meacham, .....	1864, October 15	1864, September 29
<i>Chaplain:</i>		
Anson B. Hoyt, .....	.....	.....
<i>Captains:</i>		
Michael Mitchell, .....	1862, December 3	1862, September 8
Ross Deegan, .....	1862, December 5	1862, November 29
James S. King, .....	1862, December 3	1862, September 20
Nicholas Wunder, .....	1862, December 3	1862, October 1



## ROSTER—(Continued.)

Name.	Date of Commission.		Date of Rank.	
<i>Captains:</i>				
Robert Emmett.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	1
William H. Rhodes.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	23
Joseph W. Seaman.....	1863, July	8	1863, April	1
James Lee.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	25
William Kennedy.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	3
George Brenning.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	11
John Neville.....	1863, August	10	1863, February	24
Frank T. Johnson.....	1863, October	21	1863, October	20
Henry H. Waters.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	20
William P. Huxford.....	1862, December	8	1862, November	21
William M. Shaw.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	18
Thomas Browne.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	7
Samuel Cowdrey.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	1
John Owen.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	1
Edward Marrenner.....	1864, March	19	1864, February	15
James W. Vandenburgh.....				
John H. Van Wyck.....	1864, July	14	1864, April	9
David J. Myers.....	1864, December	20	1864, November	24
John G. Leefe.....	1864, June	6	1864, February	16
Eugene S. Eunson.....	1863, October	7	1863, July	14
George W. Gibson.....	1865, February	18	1865, January	25
George E. Trembly.....	1863, October	7	1863, August	3
John B. Babcock.....	1864, November	28	1864, November	11
Charles Emerson.....	1865, February	1	1864, December	1
Harry V. Fitch.....	1865, June	17	1865, May	16
<i>1st Lieutenants:</i>				
David B. Johnson.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	8
John G. Leefe.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	20
Nehemiah Oakley.....	1863, August	10	1863, February	24
George F. Bord.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	11
Robert Emmett.....	1863, February	5	1862, December	3
A. Burdette Smith.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	1
Joseph W. Seaman.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	23
James McGuire.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	1
Thomas B. Curtis.....	1863, December	3	1862, September	25
Harry Lee.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	6
Asa Hinkley.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	11
Isaac P. Wilkins.....	1862, December	3	1862, September	20
John H. Van Wyck.....	1863, August	10	1863, March	6
Stephen C. Oakley.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	18
Samuel Cowdrey.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	7
Henry P. Fisher.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	1
William O. Flock.....	1862, December	3	1862, October	1
John H. Haggerty.....	1863, August	10	1863, April	6
John B. Babcock.....				
George W. Gibson.....	1864, July	14	1864, June	28
St. George Raby.....	1865, February	18	1865, January	25
Charles Emerson.....	1864, June	6	1864, May	18
John Hoffman.....	1865, February	18	1864, December	2
George H. Sydnau.....				
William G. Jones.....	1864, September	16	1864, April	9
Henry Landt.....	1865, June	17	1865, May	5





## ROSTER — (Continued.)

Name.	Date of Commission.	Date of Rank.
<i>1st Lieutenants:</i>		
David J. Myers.....	1864, June 6	1864, May 18
Mathew O'Connor.....	1865, February 18	1864, December 2
John E. Burke.....	1864, June 6	1864, May 23
Lorenzo D. Evans.....	1865, January 20	1864, December 1
Frederick A. Marsh.....	.....	.....
Charles Dyer.....	1864, November 30	1864, September 1
Robert O'Keefe.....	1865, April 22	1865, April 11
Alonzo Hilt.....	1864, November 30	1864, November 11
Abraham Hiltman.....	.....	1864, May 13
William L. Chequer.....	1865, February 18	1865, January 25
Charles Trainor.....	1865, January 20	1864, October 10
Joseph Mitten.....	1865, June 17	1865, May 5
Harry P. Fitch.....	1864, June 6	1864, May 23
Andrew J. Martin.....	1864, May 17	1864, May 17
<i>2d Lieutenants:</i>		
Ross Deegan.....	1862, December 3	1862, October 16
Albert G. Ives.....	1862, December 3	1862, November 29
Alonzo Hilt.....	1863, August 10	1862, November 29
Samuel C. Havens.....	1862, December 3	1862, September 20
George Unger.....	1862, December 3	1862, October 1
Charles Von Sebode.....	1862, December 9	1862, December 2
James McGuire.....	1862, December 3	1862, September 23
John E. Burke.....	1863, August 10	1863, April 1
William Kennedy.....	1862, December 3	1862, September 25
James Stack.....	1863, August 10	1863, April 3
Morton L. Kellogg.....	1862, December 3	1862, September 11
William C. Hawes.....	1863, October —	1863, September 30
Thomas Dunkin.....	1862, December 3	1862, September 20
John H. Van Wyck.....	1863, February 13	1863, January 6
George Gibson.....	1863, August 10	1863, March 6
James DeP. Wilkes.....	1862, December 3	1862, October 18
Nehemiah Oakley.....	1863, February 13	1862, December 6
Madison K. Finley.....	1863, August 10	1863, February 24
John Neville.....	1862, December 3	1862, October 7
Duncan M. Reid.....	1863, August 10	1863, February 24
Robert Emmett.....	1862, December 3	1862, October 1
John W. Haggerty.....	1863, February 5	1862, December 2
James Fountain.....	1863, August 10	1863, April 6
David J. Myers.....	.....	.....
Lorenzo D. Evans.....	1864, June 6	1864, May 16
Charles Trainor.....	1864, June 6	1864, May 23
Addison H. McCormick.....	1865, June 12	1865, June 12
William G. Jones.....	.....	.....
Theodore A. Scudder.....	.....	.....
Abraham Hiltman.....	.....	.....



## ROSTER OF THE 162d REG. N. Y. S. VOL. INF.

## AT MUSTER-OUT.

Rank.	Name.	Date of Commission.	Date of Rank.
Colonel, .....	James W. Blanchard, ..	May 31, 1864	April 9, 1864
Lieut.-Colonel, ..	Jas. M. Vandenburg, ..	June 6, 1864	April 9, 1864
Quarter-Master, ..	Charles Small, .....	Sept. 13, 1864	Sept. 2, 1864
Surgeon, .....	Edw. E. Van De Warker	July 20, 1864	April 9, 1864
<i>Company A:</i>			
Captain, .....	David J. Myers, .....	Dec. 20, 1864	Nov. 24, 1864
1st Lieutenant, ..	Matthew O'Connor, ....	Feb. 18, 1865	Dec. 2, 1864
<i>Company B:</i>			
Captain, .....	John G. Leefe, .....	June 6, 1864	Feb. 16, 1864
1st Lieutenant, ..	Alonzo Hitt, .....	Nov. 30, 1864	Nov. 11, 1864
<i>Company C:</i>			
Captain, .....	Eugene S. Eunson, ....	Oct. 7, 1863	July 14, 1863
<i>Company D:</i>			
Captain, .....	Joseph W. Seaman, ...	July 8, 1863	April 1, 1863
<i>Company E:</i>			
Captain, .....	George W. Gibson, ....	Feb. 18, 1865	Jan. 25, 1865
<i>Company F:</i>			
Captain, .....	George E. Trembly, ...	Oct. 7, 1863	Aug. 3, 1863
1st Lieutenant, ..	Robert O'Keefe, .....	April 22, 1865	April 11, 1865
<i>Company G:</i>			
Captain, .....	William P. Huxford, ..	Dec. 8, 1863	Nov. 21, 1863
1st Lieutenant, ..	St. George Raby, .....	Feb. 18, 1865	Jan. 25, 1865
<i>Company H:</i>			
Captain, .....	George H. Suydam, ....	July 14, 1864	April 9, 1864
1st Lieutenant, ..	William L. Chequer, ...	Feb. 18, 1865	Jan. 25, 1865
<i>Company I:</i>			
Captain, .....	Samuel Cowdrey, ....	July 8, 1863	April 1, 1863



## STATEMENT OF CASUALTIES.

ORGANIZATION.	Mustered out with the regiment.		Killed in action.		Died of wounds.		Deaths by disease.		Honorably discharged.		Dishonorably discharged.		Discharged for disability.		Missing in action.		Deserted.		Dismissed.		Casualties.		Resigned.		Transferred to the veteran reserve corps.		REMARKS.
	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	Officers.	Enlisted men.	
103d Infantry, .....	18	418	7	32	2	19	2	135	14	98	1	1	3	95	1	1	1	465	8	1	20	1	20	1	95	1	

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